Wrong Entries made Regarding Receipt Of Ingot moulds in Bokaro Plant

1044. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in 1989 it was pointed out that in Bokaro Steel Plant only 10 ingot moulds were received from the private supplier but the same were entered as 15;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the officer who pointed out the discrepancy was transferred; and

(d) if so, the details of the discrepancy and action taken against those who made wrong entries?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (d) The above question does not make to (d) The above question does not make any specific reference to a supplier or to an order. On the specific reference becoming available from the Honourable Member, it should be possible to furnish a reply to the Question.

Irregularities In The Supply and Manufacture of Ingot Moulds At Bokaro Steel Plant

1045. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether ingot moulds are manufactured in foundries in Bokaro Steel Plant; if so, the production per day;

(b) whether per day capacity of mould foundry is 9 to 10;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not making use of the full capacity;

(d) what is the cost at which ingot moulds are produced in Bokaro Steel Plant;

(e) whether ingot moulds are purchased from private companies also;

(f) if so, the number purchased and and at what price;

(g) whether ingot moulds purchased and supplied were of head bearing capacity of 8 to 10 heats, whereas the specification required was of 30 to 36 heats;

(h) if so, the action taken against the supplier for not sticking to specification; and

(i) the losses suffered on this count?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir. Ingot moulds are manufactured in the Ingot Mould Foundry of Bokaro Steel Plant at the average rate of 7 (seven) moulds per day.

(b) The present capacity of the Ingot mould Foundry is 9 (nine) moulds per day when the smaller moulds are made in large quantities.

(c) The reasons for not utilising the present capacity of Ingot Mould Foundry fully are:

(i) non-availability of good quality of sand; and

(ii) less availability of specified composition of hot metal (due to priority for steel-making).

(d) Cost at which ingot moulds are produced in the Bokaro Steel Plant is as follows:

1989-90 :	Rs. per mould
(i) 17 T Type . . .	93,404
(ii) 21.1 T Type . .	1,37,359
(iii) 28.2 T (Type-II) . .	1,75,820

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Numbers for which orders have been placed so far on private parties to supply ingot moulds during 1990-91 and the unit

price thereof are indicated below:

No. of ingot moulds (Typewise)	Unit Price*
215 (25 T)	@Rs. 3,18,710
10 (Type II 21.1 T)	@Rs. 3,05,000
20 (Type I 21.1 T)	@Rs. 2,48,000

*Exclusives of Taxes and duties.

(g) to (i) Most of the ingot moulds purchased and supplied were of heat bearing capacity of more than 10 heats as against the contract provision of minimum number of 10 heats (30-36 heats are not specified). Against pre-mature failures of moulds (i.e. the life given was less than 10 heats), free replacements were arranged from the parties concerned and these failures are also taken into account while finalising future orders.

Regularisation Of Services Of Casual Workers of Appu Ghar

1046. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that employees of Appu Ghar in Exhibition Ground, New Delhi are made to work for more than 11 hours i.e. from 10.00 A.M.; to 9.15 p.m.;

(b) whether there are a large number of employees who have put in more than 240 days of continuous service and still casual workers;

(c) whether the management has refused to recognise the trade union of its employees, even when it is registered; and

(d) if so, the steps are being taken to see that rules are not violated by the management and employees get the benefits under the rules?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) to (d) The Trade Fair Authority of India has only licenced out a portion of land in Pragati Maidan to M/s. International Amusement Ltd. a private owned company for running and operation of Appu Ghar on payment of licence fee. That company has recruited staff for running and operation of Appu Ghar on their own terms and conditions.

Curtailment of expenditure incurred on offices abroad

1047. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry have recently taken some steps to curtail expenditure on its offices abroad;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether some of the posts have also been abolished; and

(d) if so, the amount of foreign exchange likely to be saved as a result of these austerity measures?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to rationalise the working of foreign offices of some of the organisations under the control of the Ministry of Commerce, it has been decided to merge offices of STC, MMTC, PEC, TDA, Tea Board and MPEDA into newly constituted integrated offices of Bharat Business International Limited. The details are given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below) BBIL has been asked to coordinate in this matter with the organisations concerned and work out specifically the saving in staff and foreign exchange expenditure as a result of the rationalisation exercise.

(c) As a result of rationalisation, a number of posts abroad under the control of the organisations mentioned in part (b) above will be abolished.

(d) The exact amount of foreign exchange saving consequent to the rationalisation is being worked out by BBIL.